

ORDINANCE NO. C-26-28

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, CONDITIONED ON THE APPROVAL OF A BALLOT MEASURE, BY ESTABLISHING THE CHARTER POSITION OF FIRE CHIEF, AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCE PROVISIONS, CORRECTION OF SCRIVENER'S ERRORS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City Commission proposes an amendment to the Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, to establish the Charter position of Fire Chief, to be submitted for voter consideration;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. That the Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, be, and is hereby amended to create and add Section 4.16 as follows:

Sec. ~~Section~~ 4.16. - Fire Chief; appointment; compensation.

- (a) There is hereby established the position of Fire Chief. The Fire Chief shall be appointed by the City Commission and employed under such terms and conditions as the City Commission may deem appropriate. The Fire Chief shall receive such compensation as the City Commission may by resolution fix and designate.
- (b) The individual serving as Fire Chief on the effective date of this section shall automatically become the first appointed Fire Chief.
- (c) The Fire Chief shall reside in the City of Fort Lauderdale during his or her employment with the city, but he or she need not be a resident of the City of Fort Lauderdale or the State of Florida at the time of his or her appointment. Notwithstanding the foregoing sentence, the first appointed Fire Chief need not reside in the City of Fort Lauderdale.

CODING: Words, symbols, and letters ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words, symbols, and letters underlined are additions. Words, symbols, and letters ~~double-stricken~~ are deletions after first reading; words, symbols, and letters double underlined are additions after first reading.

SECTION 2. That this Ordinance shall not take effect unless a corresponding ballot measure is approved by a majority of the electors of the City of Fort Lauderdale voting at the election to be held on November 3, 2026. The ballot measure to be submitted shall be in substantially the following form:

CHARTER AMENDMENT NO. 10

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CHARTER POSITION OF FIRE CHIEF

Should the City of Fort Lauderdale Charter be amended to establish the Charter position of Fire Chief, who shall report directly to the City Commission rather than to the City Manager, and be employed and compensated under such terms and conditions as the City Commission deems appropriate?

☐ YES, for approval

☐ NO, for rejection

SECTION 3. That if any clause, section or other part of this Ordinance shall be held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected thereby, but shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 4. That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, be and the same are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. That, at the direction of the City Attorney, the publisher of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, is authorized to conform chapter, article, section, subsection, clause numbers and letters, and capitalization, set forth in this Ordinance, to the numbering, lettering, and capitalization structure established in the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and to correct any non-substantive scrivener's errors in the codification of this Charter amendment.

SECTION 6. That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect, as conditioned in Section 2, ten days after the date of certification of election results by the Broward County Canvassing Board.

PASSED FIRST READING this 19th day of May, 2026.

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PASSED SECOND READING this ____ day of ____, 2026.

Mayor
DEAN J. TRANTALIS

ATTEST:

City Clerk
DAVID R. SOLOMAN

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